

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 TRSE-00

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 OMB-01 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 RSR-01 /200 W
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R 090009 Z JUN 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8345

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2166

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, XF, PFOR

SUBJ: SC DEBATE ON ME

BEGIN SUMMARY: DEBATE HAS, WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, BEEN LOW KEY .
ZAYYAT HAS GIVEN APPEARANCE OF APPROACHING DEBATE WITH
GREAT SERIOUSNESS AND RESPONSIBILITY. HE HAS STRESSED NEED FOR
TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND HAS ALSO EMPHASIZED RIGHTS OF
PALESTINIANS. THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE HIGHLY QUALIFIED
EXCHANGES ON POSSIBLE NEGOTIATION. ZAYYAT HAS CAREFULLY HIDDEN
HIS ULTIMATE OBJECTIVES AND HAS RETAINED ALL OPTIONS. NAME OF GAME
IS WHETHER US READY FOR DECISIVE EVEN- HANDED MOVES. KEY QUESTION
FACING US IS WHETHER US VETO OR UNWILLINGNESS BUDGE FROM WHAT
SEEN AS PRO- ISRAELI STANCE WOULD UNDERMINE US CREDIBILITY AS
HONEST BROKER. END SUMMARY.

1. SC DEBATE SO FAR, HAS BEEN ESSENTIALLY RESPONSIBEL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

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EXCEPT FOR BRIEF TOUGH INTERVENTIONS BY
TEKOA, LOW KEY. PACE OF DEBATE IS DELIBERATE,
ATMOSPHERE IS THOUGHTFUL AND SERIOUS.
INPARTICULAR, ZAYYAT HAS ADOPTED OUR ADVICE AND THAT OF

OTHERS TO AVOID POLEMICS; CRITICISM OF US HAS BEEN VERY MUTED. EGYPTIANS HAVE DRAWN OUR ATTENTION TO THESE POINTS. (SYRIA HAS BEEN AN EXCEPTION.) ZAYYAT HAS ATTEMPTED TO FIVE PICTURE OF A LEADER WHO IS GRAVELY LOOKING FOR SIGN OF HOPE AND IS APPROACHING DEBATE WITH UTMOST SERIOUSNESS, RESPONSIBILITY.

2. HE HAS HEAVILY STRESSED ONE THEME: ABSOLUTE NEED FOR EGYPT TO REGAIN ITS TERRITORY. IN HIS SPEECHES HE HAS INCLUDED LANGUAGE WHICH COULD BE INCLUDED IN RESOLUTIONS, SUCH AS NO ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL, CHANGES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ARE NULL AND VOID, ETC., BUT THEY HAVE BEEN PRO- FORMA IN TONE. HE HAS ALSO STRONGLY EMPHASIZED RITHTS OF PALESTINIANS TO HOMELAND WITHIN SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BORDERS AT 1947 PALESTINE PARTITION LINES, RIGHT OF PALESTINIANS TO SELF- DETERMINATION, ETC. THIS STRESS HAS GREATLY IRRITATED JORDANIANS. OTHER ARABS, HOWEVER, ARE INTERPRETING ZAYYAT' S STATEMENTS AS CRAFTY EFFORT TO SEPARATE EGYPT FROM PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IN ORDER TO CONCENTRATE ON EGYPT' S TERRITORIAL DEMANDS.

3. IN DEBATE AND BACKSTAGE, THERE APPEARS TO BE MORE TALK OF POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATIONS THAN PREVIOUSLY, ALTHOUGH EACH SIDE HAS PROTECTED ITS BASIC POSITIONS AND HAS HIGHLY QUALIFIED ITS COMMENTS. WE FRANKLY DO NOT KNOW YET WHAT THIS PORTENDS-- WHETHER THE COMMENT CONSTITUTES MURKY SIGNALS OR POLITICAL DEBATING POINTS. AT ANY RATE, EXPERIENCED UN HANDS ARE INTRIGUED WHETHER POINT HAS BEEN REACHED WHERE ABLE DIPLOMACY MIGHT OPEN POSSIBILITIES FOR NEW, MORE CONSTRUCTIVE PHASE IN THIS LONG DISPUTE.

4. ZAYYAT HAS GIVEN APPEARANCE OF PLAYING LONE HAND, KEEPING HIS CARDS HIDDEN. HE HAS DISTANCED HIMSELF IN MOST CURIOUS FASHION FROM ARAB FRIENDS AS WELL AS SUCH STALWARTS AS YUGOSLAVIA, SYRIANS, ALGERIANS, PALESTINIAN REPS, IRAQIS ETC., WHO APPEAR VERY ANNOYED.

5. AT SAME TIME, ZAYYAT HAS RETAINED ALL OPTIONS: REASONABLE, CONFIDENTIAL

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BALANCED RES OR CONSENSUS; MAXIMALIST RES WHICH HE KNOWS WILL BE VEOTED BY US; PROCEDURAL DECISION TO PERMIT SYG OR JARRING TO RENEW ACTIVITIES. HE WILL BE SEEING NUMBER OF PEOPLE OVER WEEKEND, INCLUDING IRANIAN PER REP HOVEYDA WHO BELIEVES THERE ARE STRONGLY HOPEFUL SIGNS.

6. ZAYYAT' S PERFORMANCE SO FAR MAY BE PURELY TACTICAL AND ATMOSPHERIC . BUT, HE GIVES IMPRESSION OF LOOKING ANXIOUSLY AT US FOR SOME CLEARLY HELPFUL MOVE. NAME OF GAME HERE IS CLEARLY WHETHER US IS READY FOR DECISIVE EVEN- HANDED MOVES. CORRIDOR RUMORS ARE THAT SC WILL ADJOURN JUNE 14 FOR UP TO ONE MONTH. EGYPT NOT ONLY WILL BE LOOKING AT NIXON- BREZHNEV SUMMIT BUT ALSO SEEMS READY GIVE US MORE TIME FOR REFLECTION OR

ACTION BEHIND SCENES. THERE IS AIR OF EXPECTACY (HOPE?)
THAT SUMMIT WILL BE HELPFUL AND IT MUST BE RECOGNIZED
BY US WHATEVER IS STATED ON ME IN COMMUNIQUE COULD
GREATLY INFLUENCE SC OUTCOME.

7. KEY QUESTION THAT MUST BE WEIGHED BY US IS WHETHER IN
PRESENT SC ATMOSPHERE, US VETO OR UNWILLINGNESS BUDGE FROM
WHAT SEEN AS PRO- ISRAELI STANCE WILL UNDERMINE US CREDIBILITY ,
MAKING HONEST BROKER ROLE FAR MORE DIFFICULT WITHIN OR
OUTSIDE UN IN FUTURE.
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